

# Dispute Peaks as Threats Aimed at ISS, JAF

## Joint Committee To Hear Case

by Mark Potts  
News Editor

The Joint Committee of Faculty and Students will meet in a special session tomorrow to debate University funding of politically-oriented student organizations, in an attempt to lay to rest the conflict over political activities by the International Students' Society (ISS).

The meeting was requested by the Faculty Senate Executive Committee Dec. 10, according to Joint Committee co-chairman Stefan O. Schiff.

The central issue of funding arose when Student Activities Director David G. Speck withheld payment of several ISS bills following a letter sent to the Joint Committee by Vice-President for Student Affairs William P. Smith.

The four-page letter, dated Dec. 1, said the Student Activities Office (SAO) would continue to make allocations and payments against allocations "only for activities which

in the opinion of the [Student Activities] Office do not constitute partisan political activities."

The tentative agenda for Friday's meeting calls for presentations by spokesmen for ISS and the Jewish Activist Front (JAF), which had accused ISS of political activities this semester following statements made by ISS member Damjen Gruev over campus radio station WRGW attacking JAF and supporting the U.N. resolution which labeled Zionism as racism.

ISS provoked campus controversy last year when the organization's executive committee passed several politically-oriented resolutions despite protests from its general membership and other campus groups.

Following the presentations, which are not to exceed 15 minutes and must deal directly with the issue of funding politically-oriented organizations, the committee will question the representatives and then go into executive session to consider the funding matter.

(see FUNDING, p. 2)

## Student Organizations Threatened

by Jonathan Landay  
Contributing Editor

The dispute between the Jewish Activist Front (JAF) and the International Students' Society (ISS), over the society's anti-Zionist stance has taken a new direction with both groups becoming the targets of threatening letters.

The reception of the letters is coupled with the rising concern of members of the University administration over the magnitude to which the dispute has grown. Administrative officials and both organizations took the threats seriously.

The first of the two letters, slipped under the door at the JAF office on the fourth floor of the Marvin Center, followed almost immediately the assault on ISS president Mohammed Faruki last November, allegedly by two University of Maryland students. According to Bob King, who was chairman of JAF at that time, the organization received a number of threatening phone calls after the reception of the letter.

The letter consisted of the front page of a special issue of the ISS newsletter *Harbinger* which contained an account of the Faruki assault. Typed into the spaces between the paragraphs were various threats, including "JAF will DIE for this," "King will DIE for this" and "Long Live (sic) the Palestinians."

A second letter, signed by a group calling itself *Yad Mitnakem*, Hebrew for the "Hand of Vengeance," was slipped under the door of the *Hatchet* office Jan. 23.

In the letter, addressed to the editor, the group labeled the ISS "a front for the Palestine Liberation Organization—a criminal band of terrorist murderers." The letter continued, "We are through-fighting murder with words, arab (sic) terror with cries for peace, and oil with morality. We shall now act according to the Biblical passage: an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth." The letter ended, "We shall now fight terror with terror."

Informed sources said the group is also responsible for painting the slogan "PLO Headquarters" on the front of the International Student House at 2129 G Street, where ISS has its headquarters, early last month.

Last week, David G. Speck, director of student activities, met with three members of JAF, including King, on Jan. 22 and expressed his concern for the level to which the dispute has risen. Speck, however, was not aware of the *Yad Mitnakem* letter.

(see THREATS, p. 6)

# HATCHET

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Thursday, February 5, 1976

## Scholarships Going To Women Athletes

by Judy Schaper  
Hatchet Staff Writer

Athletic scholarships will be awarded to women for the first time in GW history beginning next fall, according to the women's athletic department.

Lynn George, women's athletic director, refused to disclose the amount of money her department will receive for scholarships. She did, however, call it "substantial, comparable to the men."

According to Title IX of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare regulations enacted into law in July 1975, all universities must provide athletic equality between sexes by July 1978. George said the GW administration, by approving women's athletic scholarships, "is taking a giant step toward insuring equality in all sports before the three-year deadline."

George has met with the coaches of the nine teams currently fielded by the women's athletic department in order to establish procedures for awarding scholarship money. According to George, the proposed plan is to give scholarships based on recommendations from the various coaches.

Money from the general scholarship fund will be distributed to all the teams, and each team's coach will decide how the money will be distributed. They can choose to award a player full tuition, or divide one full scholarship among several players, among other options.

Funds can be granted to athletes already playing, or reserved for potential players.

"There will be no active recruiting with the scholarships," said George. "Rather, the athlete will be en-

couraged to come to the University on the premise that if she is accepted by the University and proves herself worthy of a scholarship by our playing ability, she will receive one."

The coaches will also set performance standards for their scholarship players which the athletes must maintain to keep the grant. No special academic performance levels will be set, other than those the University requires of all students.

Before final decisions are made regarding scholarships, George hopes to meet with the Women's Athletic Advisory Council, an organization consisting of representatives from all the women's teams, for its suggestions and recommendations.

by Scott Lebar  
Hatchet Staff Writer

Jack and Sue attended GW  
Just to get an occupation  
Both were bright, but couldn't write  
So they blew their educations.

Traditional, with variation

Reports have grown more frequent in recent months that today's Jacks and Sues attending college cannot read and write on a functional level. *Newsweek* (Dec. 8, 1975) proclaimed, "The U.S. educational system is spawning a generation of semiliterates." The College Entrance Examination Board said this year's Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) scores exhibited the largest drop in the past 20 years.

All this concern has not bypassed GW. Indeed, according to most professors interviewed, if you are a student there's a good chance that you cannot easily read this complex sentence.

"I couldn't point to when it changed in the 20 years I've taught at GW," Prof. Hugh L. LeBlanc, chairman of the political science



## Six More Weeks...

Although the sun, combined with temperatures as low as 11 degrees and winds up to 35 miles an hour, combined to keep the groundhog underground

Monday, this GW student braved both on his trek to the library. [photo by Jonathan Landay]

## Student Verbal Abilities Seem Lower

by Scott Lebar  
Hatchet Staff Writer

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"I couldn't point to when it changed in the 20 years I've taught at GW," Prof. Hugh L. LeBlanc, chairman of the political science

department, said. "But there has definitely been a decline in the students' ability to express ideas effectively in writing."

Most instructors agreed. Although the problem is broad and complex, they were able to pinpoint areas of difficulty. And these areas appeared to cover everything—ranging from putting thoughts in coherent word order to using fundamental grammar and spelling.

"What students seem to lack is an ability to express their ideas in writing. Their ideas are often hidden in a mass of words," LeBlanc said.

LeBlanc is not alone in these observations. Prof. Jon A. Quitslund, who teaches both introductory and advanced English literature courses, said while students this year may not be as bad off as the national reports imply, they still have problems.

"I think that a lot of students have a basic difficulty in reading and expressing themselves in writing," Quitslund said. "Students have difficulty writing complex sentences, or at least good complex sentences. There is usually a break

in the train of thought. They have difficulty in conceptualizing their ideas and are insensitive to what the language is all about.

Prof. Robert H. Moore, who heads the English composition department, hinted that he feels the heat from many involved in this issue. Moore is the author of the composition text used in most introductory English courses and many students resent having to take the course.

If they haven't had the proper training in elementary and high schools—and Moore claimed many of them haven't—his job becomes doubly difficult. In addition, Moore said, other departments complain to him about students' inability to write.

"Every department has said that writing is basic to the major," Moore said. "The only thing the instructor knows about the student is what he or she writes on a paper or exam."

But, Moore added, the responsibility to teach students to write shouldn't lie with the introductory English classes alone.

(see READING, p. 4)



## PB Receives Complaint On 'Racist' Film

The Program Board Monday night discussed criticism from black students concerning a *Step'n Fetchit* short shown before last Friday's Program Board films committee presentation of the pornographic film, *Illusions of a Lady*.

*Illusions of a Lady*, which was shown four times, was preceded by the *Step'n Fetchit* short for the first three showings. The trailer, made in the 1930's, depicts Step'n as a lazy, shiftless black. In addition, blacks are shown in stereotyped roles of singing, dancing and shuffling.

Black Peoples Union (BPU) spokesman Donovan Smith confirmed that a formal complaint would be made by the BPU. Smith said the showing of the film was "perpetuating racism on campus." He added that BPU leaders hoped to meet with Program Board officials Monday to discuss the complaint.

Program Board Films-Video chairman Dennis Glick, who said the film was programmed before he took over as films chairman this semester, nevertheless defended the board's right to show it, saying it had the responsibility to show films covering a spectrum of ideas, appeal



Dennis Glick  
"open to input"

and interest. "I'm sorry if anyone was offended," he added.

Glick said he had not yet received a formal complaint from the BPU, but added, "The Program Board welcomes any input from any group in the University."

At its Monday meeting the board also discussed a letter from Calvin D. Linton, dean of Columbian College, who warned the board against the dangers of its widespread posting of publicity flyers. Linton wrote that according to the D.C. Fire Department it is illegal to post anything on windows.

In addition, the board approved co-sponsorship of speaker programs with the Ripon Society which will include Thad Garrett, Vice-President Nelson Rockefeller's domestic advisor, and Charles Goodell, head of President Ford's clemency board; and a Jewish Activist Front program with Moshe Yegar of the Israeli Foreign Ministry.

—Mark Angeles

## Agents Explain Role of FBI

by Mark Dawidziak  
Hatchet Staff Writer

The FBI needs strict guidelines in dealing with the internal security operations which account for less than 15 per cent of the agency's work, according to agent David Loesch.

Speaking before 60 persons in the Thurston Hall piano lounge Monday night, Loesch and fellow agent Lee Waggoner pointed out that 85 per cent of the agency's work is in criminal investigation. "The rest is internal security and dealing with subversive groups," Waggoner said. "It was this area of internal security that the [FBI] leaders ran into problems."

Referring to guidelines in dealing with internal security, Waggoner said, "I don't think you can leave it up to morality. What J. Edgar Hoover believed was Communism I may not think so. So you need strict guidelines when dealing with subversive groups and national security."

Throughout the program, sponsored by the Thurston Hall Dorm Council, Loesch and Waggoner stressed that they were voicing their own opinions. "We're not supervisors, we're street agents," one agent said.

On the recent criticisms of the FBI under the leadership of J. Edgar Hoover and during the Watergate

scandals, Loesch said he received a lot of negative reaction in Washington, which "does hamper your job a little." However, he said, the criticisms tend "not to affect you that much. I'd be the last one in the world to say the FBI never makes mistakes."

Loesch, a GW graduate student, has been with the agency for four years. He commented that he became an agent because he was looking for a job which would include serving the public as well as giving him personal satisfaction.

Loesch remarked that the life of an FBI agent is not as glamorous as sometimes thought. "I worked a whole week on the Bortnick kidnapping case," he said. Alan J. Bortnick, manager of a Washington trucking firm, was abducted on Jan. 12 and later freed. Six suspects were caught, one escaped. "It was around-the-clock [work] and two hours sleep a night. It's not a job for someone looking for an eight-to-five schedule," Loesch said.

On the FBI's alleged role in assassination plots, Waggoner commented, "The people who work for the FBI are regular guys. They are not going to just go out and kill somebody." He added he thought the agency did a good job of investigating the 1968 assassination of Martin Luther King and capturing James Earl Ray, King's convicted killer.

Loesch said he hoped the FBI would release the files on the King case.

In regard to the Patty Hearst case, Waggoner said the newspaper heiress was able to evade the FBI for so long because there was no criminal background on her. "People who have no known criminal associates are very hard to find and we must rely on informants in these cases," he continued. "We caught her through a lot of tough investigation."

There was also a discussion of the FBI's famous "Ten Most Wanted" list. Loesch said agents have caught six "top tens" this year. Once a criminal is on the list, he does not get off until he is caught, charges against him are dropped or he dies.

In response to questions about the amount of information the agency gathers on individuals Loesch remarked, "I think the guys under Hoover wrote everything down about everyone."

## Boris Bell Recovered, Back On Job

Marvin Center Director Boris Bell returned to his job on a full-time basis Jan. 19, after a recovery from the heart attack he suffered in his Center office last Oct. 1.

Bell attributed the coronary to overwork, saying he had been putting in 60 to 65 hours per week. Another factor was what he called "a pressure kind of situation" in connection with the controversy over the Governing Board's Task Force report, in which he was directly involved.

The controversy centered around the Task Force's decision to redesignate the functions of certain Marvin Center areas. Bell was stricken at the first of three days of hearings on the issue.

He was taken to GW Hospital, where he remained for a month. On Nov. 1 he returned to his home in Alexandria, Virginia, but after four days was readmitted to the hospital, where he underwent treatment due to complications. Assistant Center Director Donald L. Cotter assumed his duties in the interim.

As a precaution against further ailments, Bell has resolved to limit himself to a more reasonable working schedule as well as an exercise program. In addition, he now takes regular rests on his office couch during his lunch hour.

## Jt. Committee To Decide ISS Funding

FUNDING, from p. 1

According to Schiff, "there is a possibility" a decision will come out of that single executive session, although further discussions will be held by the committee if necessary.

Robert King, ex-chairman of JAF, was picked by that organization's executive board as its spokesman, while the spokesman for ISS has not yet been picked, according to ISS President Muhammed Faruki.

Faruki said ISS' position at the meeting will be two-fold. The organization will attempt to question Joint Committee's right to decide on the issue and attack what Faruki described as the administration's "institutional bias" towards ISS.

Earlier, Faruki had apparently protested to Schiff about the alleged bias. At last Friday's Joint Commit-

tee meeting, Schiff said he would ask all Joint Committee members who felt they could not view the situation objectively because of previous biases to disqualify themselves at the start of tomorrow's meeting.

Faruki has apparently personally suggested to at least one Jewish committee member that she step down before hearing the question because of her supposed bias.

Donna Olshan, a student member, said Faruki approached her in the Rathskellar Saturday night and "indicated to me that I ought to disqualify myself from the meeting."

Olshan said she feels she can decide the question objectively. "I think I'm a very honest person," she said. "I think I make my decisions on the facts."

Faruki said, "If partisanship is to be the sole criterion for withholding funds, then this University would go bankrupt." Faruki charged that Speck's "eagerness" in withholding ISS funds "only shows his hopeless ineptitude in handling controversies and student organizations."

According to Speck, Faruki never came to see him to discuss withholding of the ISS payments.

Even if funding is cut off by the committee, Faruki said, ISS "will continue regardless."

The JAF position at the meeting, according to King, will hinge on the fact that the University has pledged not to fund partisan political organizations, as set down in Smith's letter. He said JAF would make several points at the meeting, including:

- Smith's letter to the committee said the ISS was originally formed to serve social and cultural interests of GW's foreign students.

- The ISS is presently a politically active organization which receives University funding.

- SAO has stated, in memos from Speck, that monies allocated to organizations "may not be used to promote or provide political or partisan activities."

- Smith told JAF in a letter that SAO takes steps to insure that student organizations do not make any payments for political activities.

- "It is impossible, or at best impractical," according to JAF, "to attempt to delineate between an organization's social or cultural activities and its political ones."

- If funding is to continue, it should be on an "equitable basis."

According to Schiff, should the committee vote to cut off ISS funding, such an action will be recommended to SAO and Smith for action, as the Joint Committee role is strictly advisory.

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## Special Interest Floors

## Success Of Floors Varies

by Jeff Jacoby  
Hatchet Staff Writer

Last year, a group of freshmen who were interested in studying law got together with the dean of students to talk about a program they had come up with. The idea was discussed, worked out and set up—and now there is a legal interest group on Thurston Hall's seventh floor.

In addition, there are three other "special interest" floors in Thurston: The Pre-med Quiet ninth floor, the International second floor, and the Politics and Values first floor. Each of the floors have something special to offer to interested students.

The International floor belies its name. Only 25 to 30 of its 90 residents are foreign-born.

Of those who are, several are from U.S. possessions such as the Virgin Islands. However, many residents have traveled extensively and contribute to the cosmopolitan atmosphere of the floor.

Last semester, the International floor held a Latin American Night and other programs which were well-received by the residents.

Still, there are problems. Resident Assistant (RA) Nancy Nostrand said, "We're crippled by the fact that there aren't so many international students. Many kids on the floor didn't apply to get on."

Nostrand further explained, "We don't get much help from the International Student's Society (ISS)." Nostrand had hoped for ISS cosponsorship of programs on the floor, but ISS interaction with the floor has been minimal, she said.

According to Susan Fox, ISS program chairman, and a Thurston second floor resident, only four of the more than 90 students on the floor are ISS members. Nostrand and Fox both agree that, as Fox put it, "the reason a lot of people won't join ISS is because of the condition it is in now," referring to the controversies over ISS political stands.

Reaction among the students in the program is mixed. Some express enthusiasm. "I really enjoy living here, and might reapply to be on it next year," one resident said. Others were less charitable. Kathy Connell said, "This floor really isn't so hot." Another resident exclaimed, "In-

ternational" floor—that's a laugh. Most kids here come from Brooklyn and New Jersey."

The seventh floor is full of prospective lawyers. "Some kids here really have an intense interest in law," explained RA Michael Hess, a second year law student. "My goal isn't to advocate a career in law—it's to expose them to career possibilities," he said.

Most students who participate in the group seem to be satisfied with it. Warren Saks explained, "Thurston doesn't really have that much going for it, and this program is a strong improvement."

As part of the program, last semester the floor sponsored Sunday seminars which brought speakers to Thurston to tell about opportunities in the field of law. This semester, interested students can participate in a legal activism project, pursuing a specific legal issue with help from the National Law Center.

The first thing to understand about the Pre-med Quiet floor is that "it is not quiet," according to RA Peggy Blauner.

Gail Hanson, assistant dean of students, explained that the floor is



Although both Mark Roff and Anne Krueger are native-born Americans, they reside on Thurston's International Floor. [photo by Jim Weiner]

comprised of two separate groups—the pre-med group, and the quiet group. "For reasons of space we had to put them together."

One disgruntled resident said, "Those who came here for quiet were sure disappointed." At about 11 p.m. each night, the noise level increases, and those who planned on studying are forced to find new surroundings, according to one Thurston resident.

Pre-med students, on the other hand, had few complaints, and some noticed improvement.

"We've managed to eliminate a lot of the cutthroat competition that existed last year," Blauner said, "and the kids get along really well."

Although Pre-med students have a tradition of leading an unusual campus existence, the floor, with half freshmen and half sophomore residents, seems quite livable even for non-pre-med students. Blauner, a law student, said with a smile, "There are some things here I really like."

Perhaps the most interesting of the special interest floors is the first. It is the only floor that includes a special course, Politics and Values, which is worth 6 credits a semester to the students who stick it out. Secondly, it is a small floor, having only 30 residents.

However, problems exist. Nine residents dropped the course this semester; most of them cited the course's heavy workload as the reason. The class meets six hours a week, and has weekly tests and long reading assignments in a total of 13 texts. Also, last semester, six papers were assigned.

Some students reported problems with the professor, Dr. Charles Roll. "He grades arbitrarily," said one. "I can't stand him," said another.

Most of the floor's residents, however, seem pleased to be part of the program. Eric Freed explained, "Although it's been a lot of work, I've learned a lot and feel it's worth it."

## RHA Wants Lease Changes

David Judd, president of the Residence Hall Association (RHA), said in an interview Tuesday that changes in the student housing leases proposed to the Housing Office by RHA "should come through."

The lease change requests deal with improving student understanding of the lease, as well as clarifying University responsibility in connection with the agreement.

RHA, affiliated with the Housing Office, consists of representatives from each university residence hall, except Graduate Hall.

Although acceptance of the RHA amendments by the Housing Office is still uncertain, Judd said Housing Director Ann Webster "took them all positively."

The major request by RHA was that GW should state in the lease that the University will accept responsibility for any damage done to a student's room caused by University negligence. An example

would be a fire in a room caused by faulty wiring.

"They usually do take responsibility anyway, but I think it should be stated in the lease, just in case," said Judd.

In an effort to improve student understanding, RHA also proposed simplification of the language used in the lease.

For example, "instead of 'lessor' and 'lessee,' it should say 'university' and 'student,' Judd said.

The other RHA proposals include a clarification of the deadline for vacating the dorms and a written stipulation in the contract concerning student obligations regarding required subscription to the food service.

Currently, according to Judd, an addendum is attached to each lease explaining that all freshmen and sophomore dorm residents are required to eat on the Macke meal plan. RHA would like this requirement written directly into the

contract, to help eliminate confusion.

In other RHA developments, a constitution for the association was submitted to the various dorm councils for approval. The councils will have three weeks to approve or disapprove the document.

—Dewey Blanton

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## Verbal Competence Questioned

READING, from p. 1

"I've had instructors ask me 'why don't you teach these kids to write?' Moore said. 'I ask them 'why don't you make them write?' And then when they say 'I can't understand this essay,' I ask 'Then why did you give that student a good grade?'"

"Instructors shouldn't reward students for writing that they can't understand...Often, I get papers with incomplete sentences. Well, then I have to guess what the student means. Other instructors have to guess also. But then the student doesn't get the grade he deserves," Moore said.

Moore emphasized that the reading and writing problem does not mean students are not as bright as they used to be. In fact, all professors interviewed agreed students are as intelligent as ever, despite the current SAT results. They just don't express their intelligence as well as their predecessors, they said.

Using GW's incoming freshman SAT scores as a guide confirms their impressions. Over the past three years, there has been a drop in freshmen SAT scores, but it appears minimal.

According to information released through the Admissions office, the mean verbal score for male freshmen Columbian College applicants in the fall of 1975 have dropped 20 points, from 540 to 520, since 1973. Females have remained stable at a mean verbal score of 520. On the English Composition Achievement Test, the male mean has dropped from 530 to 510, while the female mean has dropped from 540 to 530.

However, the drop loses significance when the scores are subjected to various interpretations. Five hundred fifty-six more students applied for admission in 1975 than in 1973. Moore said he thought this rise in college applications was one of the reasons for the declining aptitude in reading and writing.

"I guess the age of television has something to do with it," LeBlanc noted. "But I think it also relates to the problems of teaching of grammar in elementary and secondary schools."

Moore agreed. "To some extent, I do blame the high schools. The teachers on that level are now the ones who ignored writing when they were students. They can't teach the basics because they don't know them themselves," he said.

In noting future trends, Quitslund said his current group of students actually appears more capable with the pen than those of recent years.

"If I went back five to eight years, I would say the students are less literate...I don't notice that this year. I've been surprised and delighted by work in the advanced courses. At the intro level, they are at least as good as they have been in previous years," he said.

Nevertheless, English 9, the remedial writing class, has experienced a tremendous growth in enrollment in recent years, according to Moore. "Fifteen years ago we were at the point of dropping the course," Moore said. But the need for it has grown again from a few sections to 12 or 13 bigger sections."

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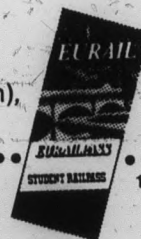
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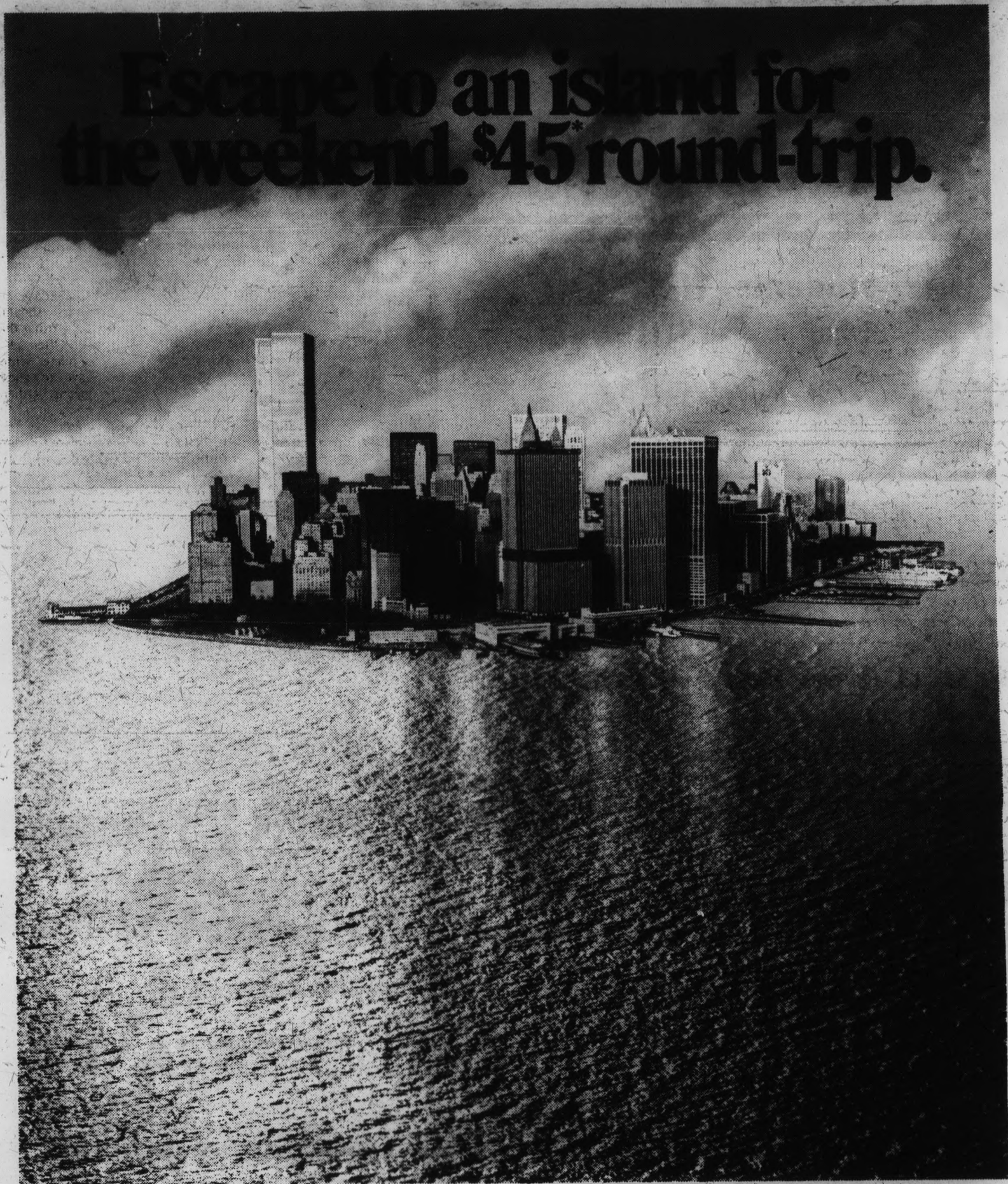
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# Emotions High In ISS, JAF Dispute

## THREATS, from p. 1

According to King, Speck warned JAF of the possibility of a bomb concealed in a package being delivered to either JAF or the ISS. Speck called the warning a "perfectly appropriate measure."

Speck said he called the meeting

because of "a concern with the escalating vandalism" on the campus. He added, "This situation is one in which feelings are becoming increasingly hostile."

Asked what his reaction was to the *Yad Mitnakem* letter, Speck said he felt that it could be a

legitimate threat. "You may find an individual who is irrational enough to see this situation as more than it really is," he said, adding, "it only takes one person to blow you up or beat you up."

Speck said Marianne Phelps, dean of students, had a similar

meeting Jan. 21 with representatives of ISS. Although Phelps would not comment on the content of that meeting, Faruki said she expressed concern over the possibility of a renewed flare-up of the dispute.

King turned the letter he received over to Campus Security, and neither he nor Security informed Metropolitan Police. He also called the Israeli Embassy, which offered him protection. But King said the Thanksgiving break allowed for a toning down of the situation and the incident cooled temporarily.

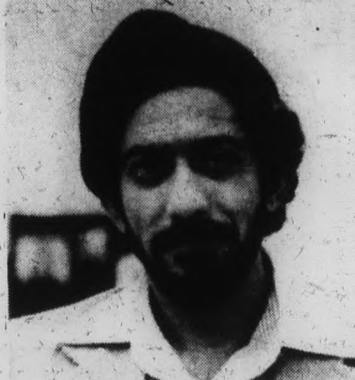
Faruki labeled the letter to the *Hatchet* a "stupid thing from these people that study at an educational institution. They have yet to grow intellectually." Yet there are indications that the *Yad Mitnakem* group is not composed of GW students.

According to confidential sources, *Yad Mitnakem* is an affiliate of another Jewish radical group, Jewish Armed Resistance (JAR) which is based in New York. Russ Kelner, operations officer of the New York chapter of the Jewish Defense League (JDL), said JAR is a "top secret group" consisting of "a few dozen activists."

The group has been active for about three years and is responsible for at least one fire bombing, according to Kelner. JAR has also claimed responsibility for the October 1974 attack on PLO diplomatic headquarters on Park Avenue in New York, said Kelner. In the attack, which came two or three weeks before PLO leader Yassir Arafat first spoke at the United



**Bob King**  
received phone calls



**Muhammed Faruki**  
"a stupid thing"

Nations, JAR members allegedly shot up the offices and bludgeoned a PLO delegate.

According to another JDL source, JAR is a more radical group than the JDL. The group believes in the basic philosophy of the JDL, but feels it should be "augmented by special actions," he said. The source refused to disclose the size or composition of the *Yad Mitnakem* group.

(see THREATS, page 9)

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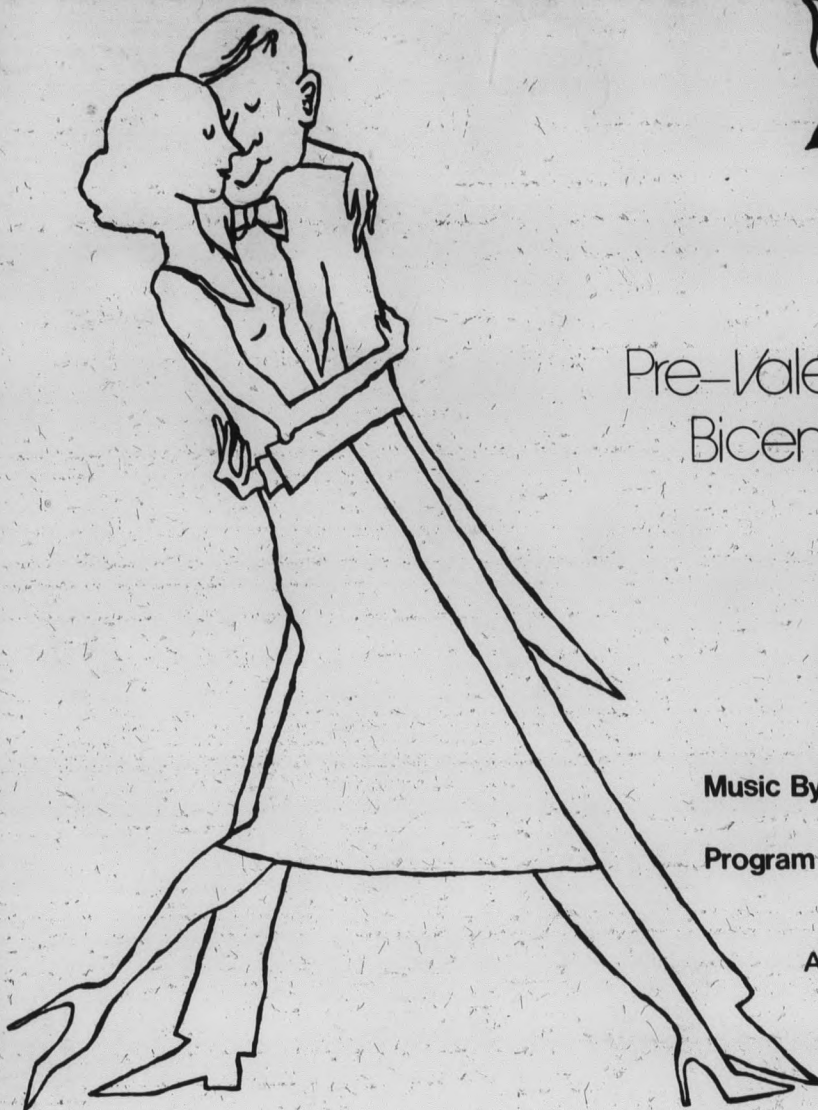
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## ADDITIONAL NOTICES:

The Program Board Bicentennial Committee will sponsor the First Annual Birthday Celebration in Honor of George Washington featuring the world premier of the play "Everything you always wanted to know about George Washington but they were afraid to print..." on Monday February 15 from 7:00 to 12:00 p.m. in the Ballroom. Admission is free.

To all on-campus groups and dormitories. The Co-sponsorship Committee of the Program Board will have a meeting on February to discuss all programs which will be co-sponsored with a committee of the Program Board. All groups who wish to take advantage of this opportunity, please contact the appropriate Program Board Committee or David Wagner at 676-7312. The meeting will be held at 7:00 pm in the Program Board office, Marvin Center 429. This would be an excellent opportunity for your group.

Program Board Political Affairs and Ripon Society have invited Thad Garrett, the Domestic Adviser to Vice President Rockefeller to speak on Wednesday February 11 at 8:30 p.m. in Marvin Center 405.

Program Board Political Affairs and Jewish Activist Front present "The Israeli View" on Wednesday February 11 at 8 p.m. in Marvin Center 402. The speaker will be Moshe Yegar, Director of Information for the Foreign Ministry of Israel.

Martha's Marathon broke all attendance records for any GWU function last year. If you are wondering why you will not have to wait much longer. Martha's Marathon will be held on Friday February 20 at 8 p.m. in the Ballroom. Don't forget—Martha's Marathon—GWU's only traditional auction and dance—February 20—and it's sponsored by the Residence Hall Association...

The Program Board Public Relations Committee needs someone to announce a weekly radio spot. If interested please contact Susan Sirmal at 676-7312 or 296-5349.

The Program Board will have its weekly meeting on Monday February 9 at 8 p.m. in Marvin Center 429. All interested students are invited to attend.

Horatio-Cupid will be waiting with open arms to meet you at the Program Board's Pre-Valentine's Day Ball on February 7 at 9 p.m.—St. Valentine.

Next Week—The Apprenticeship of Duddy Kravitz—7:15 and 9:30 p.m.—Ballroom—Friday, February 14—Program Board Films



# Arts and Entertainment

## 'Twigs': Sherry Nehmer's Thesis, A Fine Play

by Scott Bliss  
Hatchet Staff Writer

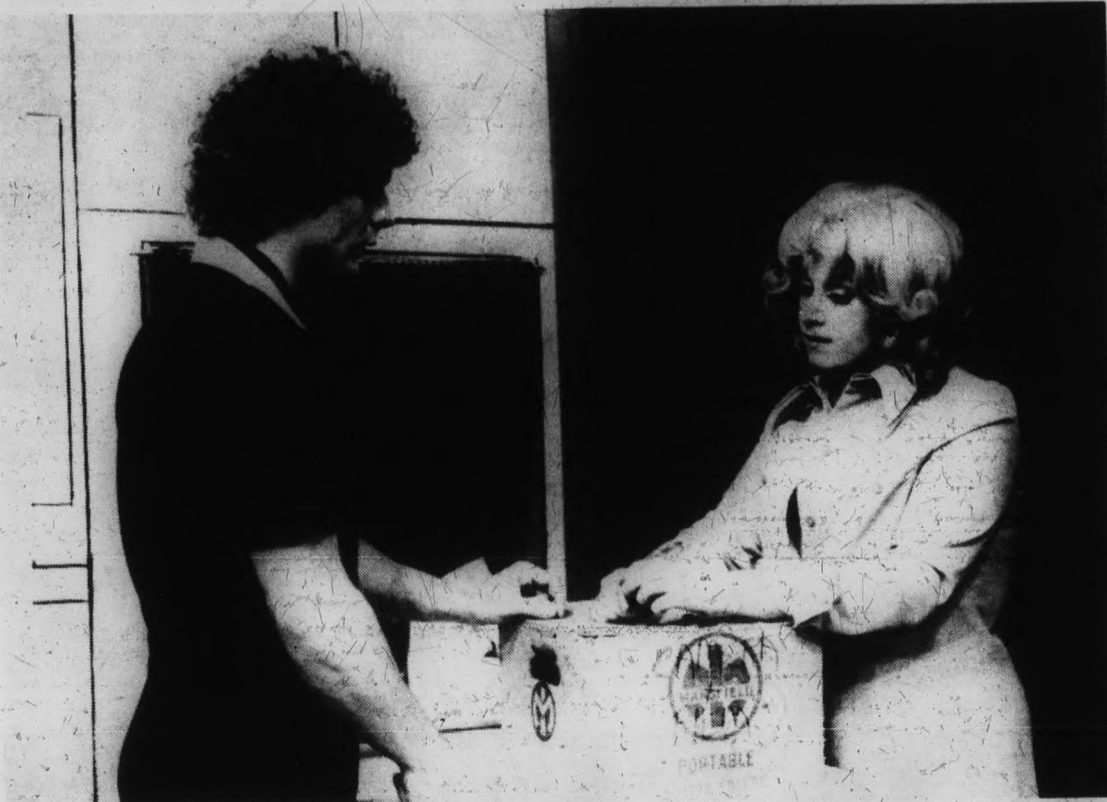
For an overwhelming majority of GW students, the University Theatre conjures up visions of the Dorothy Betts Marvin Theatre, occasionally Lisner Auditorium, or perhaps even SPDR 45. "Understanding the Theatre." This is unfortunate, for the University Theatre is much more than an inexpensive play once in a while. It is also a place where education goes on, and in the lively arts, this can be an exciting thing.

A particularly noteworthy event in the history of GW theatre education is currently taking place in Studio A, tucked away in the bowels of Lisner Auditorium. The event is the first MFA thesis in acting at GW; the play is *Twigs*, and the two hours the production takes is time well spent for any audience.

Briefly, the play examines the lives of four women, three sisters and their mother, with each of the four scenes devoted to a moment in the life of one woman on the day before Thanksgiving.

Sherry Nehmer, whose thesis this is, executes the roles of all four women with the dexterity and flourish that one has come to expect of her performances. Indeed, the play is most certainly an appropriate showpiece for Nehmer's multi-faceted talents. As the play unfolds and as each woman is presented, the audience cannot help but be amazed (and delighted) by the grace and apparent ease with which Nehmer makes the transformation from character to character. There can be no doubt that one is in the presence of an actress of the highest calibre.

Although it would be difficult to say in which scene, Nehmer is at her



Edward Apicella and Sherry Nehmer discuss matters in *Twigs*, the first MFA thesis in acting at GW, starting tonight at 8 p.m. in the Studio Theatre, Lower Lisner. The play will continue until Saturday night.

best, assuredly the second allows her the greatest range of possibilities. As Celia, Nehmer must run the gamut from comedy to heart-rending pathos. This she does with great skill and credibility.

While Celia shows us Nehmer at her most versatile, it is Ma, in the final scene, who brings out the warmth that underlies the comedy of the play. Here, Nehmer's convincing brogue and apt but natural mannerisms lend a certain sympathy

to the playwright's somewhat superficial treatment of this crucial character.

In much the same vein, the role of Dorothy, while primarily comical, betrays an underlying warmth and affection which the actress succeeds in capturing with an admirable subtlety.

All this is not to say that *Twigs* is, by any stretch of the imagination, a one-woman show. Nehmer is quite fortunate in working with a supporting cast which, for the most part, suitably complements her talents and performance.

Without a doubt, the laurels for best supporting actor in this production must go to Davis Tillman, whose portrayals of Phil and Pa leave nothing to be desired. As Phil, Tillman portrays the ill-bred, domineering character with an aplomb that lends a perfect credibility to his performance.

The acid test of Tillman's talent, however, is his characterization of

Pa, where his standard old-man movements and his accent, apparently acquired from listening to too many *Bert and I* recordings, would seem like the stock bag of tricks from an actor with lesser talent. Tillman, however, is able to pull the whole thing off, and this is no small accomplishment.

Mark Donovan, as Dorothy's husband Lou, plays a foil to Dorothy's pranks with an admirable sparkle. Just as in the case with Tillman's portrayal of Pa, Donovan has the innate sensitivity to capture the tenderness of the scene, which

could too easily have been sacrificed to the comedy. This is no minor accomplishment among students of the theatre, and Donovan should share a great deal of the credit for making this scene perhaps the most psychologically satisfying of the lot.

One can only admire an actor who is able to take a small role and hone it to the point where the audience sees a fully-developed character. Gray Basnight, playing Swede and Ned, is most certainly worthy of this sort of admiration. Although the part of Swede is admittedly not as extensive as many of the others in the play, it is in no way less demanding.

One feels that Basnight's character is complete; with Swede, the audience sees not only the character confined to the action of a single scene, but also the man himself. Basnight plays Ned, whose role is somewhat more functional than deep, with a flair that demonstrates a highly developed insight into the totality of the comic experience. Expressions, gestures, and mannerisms are all executed with a finesse that can only be described as admirable.

Finally, one must acknowledge the role of the director, Paul Parady, in this production. Given the limited amount of resources available to an MFA thesis production as opposed to a mainstage production, one can only admire the quality of the work he has produced.

At the outset of this review, it was noted that the University Theatre is an educational vehicle as well as a producer of entertainment. This does not mean that the two purposes are by any means incompatible. *Twigs* may be an education for some, but for its audience it is without a doubt first-rate entertainment.

## Arts Events

The GW Music Department presents its third concert of the faculty series on Friday, Feb. 6 at 8:30 p.m. in the Theatre. The performing artists, all members of the music faculty, are Robert Kraft, recorder; Lewis Lipnick, bassoon; Robert Parris, harpsichord; and George Steiner, violin. The program is devoted entirely to music of the Baroque Period for the instruments in solos and various ensembles. The

concert is open to the public free of charge.

Rock Creek and the English Department's undergraduate majors organization sponsors an open poetry and prose reading this Friday and every Friday at 3 p.m. in Center 402.

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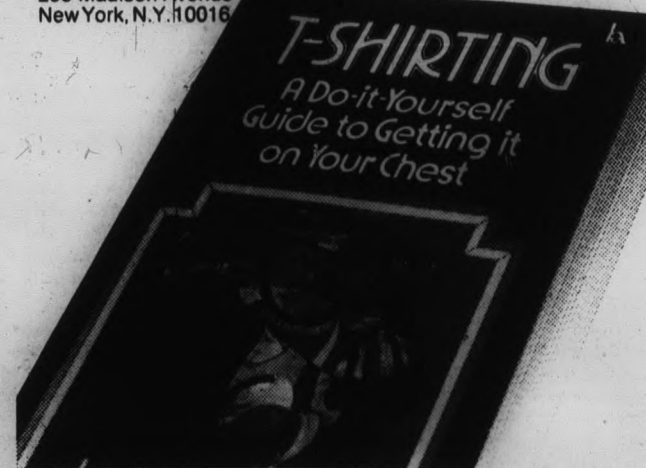
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Without Okay****THREATS from p. 6**

A copy of the *Yad Mitnakem* letter was printed with editorial comment from Faruki in Tuesday's *Harbinger*. Faruki obtained a copy of the letter from *Hatchet* Editor-in-Chief Mark Toor, who said the letter was printed without permission and Faruki was given a copy solely for personal use.

(Written with notes from Norm Gut-hartz.)

**Correction**

In Monday's issue, the *Hatchet* reported that the minimum amount owed before the University Library would encumber grades and registration privileges was raised from \$15 to \$50. The Library's clarified policy is that grade reports and transcripts will be encumbered for bills totalling \$15 or more, and grade reports, transcripts and registration privileges will be encumbered for bills totalling \$50 or more.

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# Editorials

## Put A Lid On

The threatening letters sent to the International Students' Society and the Jewish Activist Front (see story, p. 1) are a deplorable but not surprising outgrowth of the escalation of the ISS-JAF dispute last semester. A controversy that started within ISS and involved only the group's future direction as a social or political organization was extended and enlarged this year by ISS and JAF to encompass both international Jewish-Arab relations and personal conflicts between the groups' respective leaders. In such an atmosphere of charge and countercharge, outside groups were encouraged to move in and try to manipulate the turmoil to further their own ends.

Whatever the outcome of the Joint Committee decision tomorrow, it is hoped that both organizations will put the lid on and deemphasize further disputes. This is a campus, and the campus is surely a place for debates—but not threats or violence.

## Open Up

While the Joint Committee apparently feels the sensitive nature of the ISS-JAF funding controversy requires it to retire into executive session to debate the question, (see story, p. 1) it seems these same factors should motivate the unit to hold its deliberations in an open forum. The committee is dealing with a potentially explosive issue with suspicions running high on both sides, and it would be unhealthy and counterproductive for the committee to ban all interested parties, and the press from its debate.

ISS President Mohammed Faruki has already stated his intention of attacking the Joint Committee's right to consider the question, as well as the personal biases of its members. It is hard to understand how slipping into a closed session is going to do anything but add further to Faruki's allegations.

There is little chance that any decision of the Joint Committee can please everyone, but isolating the reasons for its decision from the press and interested parties can only serve to weaken the decision, as well as the committee's already uncertain influence and prestige.

## Incredible

It seems almost incredible that in a supposedly enlightened college community the Program Board could be so insensitive as to show films reinforcing the most negative racial stereotypes (see story, p. 2). Even more incredible is films chairman Dennis Glick's inane defense of the film by citing the board's right to show films covering a spectrum of ideas. While no one would argue with such a high-blown principle, neither Glick nor anyone else should spend student money to show a film encouraging bigotry.

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Opinions expressed in editorials are not necessarily a consensus of the Hatchet editorial board.

Mark A. Shiffrin

## Dan Moynihan Was Right

As Daniel Patrick Moynihan departs from public life again, if only temporarily, we have yet another of those always welcome opportunities to praise his service and, more importantly, to reevaluate the kind of American foreign policy course which he has helped chart.

Mr. Moynihan has made many worthwhile and often overlooked points at the UN. Perhaps the most important of these was that which the Third World found hardest to take: that the United States does not, and should not, allow itself to be politically buffeted by the tepid gusts of self-righteous totalitarians who tend to dominate Turtle Bay.

Moynihan has been a rare and welcome type of American ambassador for his era, operating on the premise that all policy-making talent isn't situated at the headquarters of the State Department and the White House. He took a very strong, vocal role which was bound to be controversial. He used strong, pointed, justifiable rhetoric as a tool of policy. His honesty was a refreshing change.

While some of the professional diplomats at State found this aggressive honesty to be too much, and Foggy Bottom's serfs essentially

agreed with Turtle Bay's distraught lords, the top policymakers at State and the White House agreed with Moynihan. The fact that Moynihan spoke with the endorsement of the key policy makers is significant, indicating a new and needed trend in American diplomacy.

It reminds me of the sort of philosophy of American foreign policy enunciated by America's turn-of-the-century Open Door policy which made clear that the United States, at a time when China was being divided up by the great powers of the day, expected its fair share. The policy said that the United States was not going to let others determine its international destiny. Though we maintained an arrogance allowing us to decide the destinies of others, we had no desire to permit the converse. Three quarters of a century ago, we said that we would determine our foreign involvements. We enunciated a policy of national self-determination and this was and is important.

The needed policy for the seventies is one in which, as in the Open Door policy, the United States asserts its national political integrity and right to self-determination in the larger world, that it cannot and will not permit itself to be domina-

ted by foreign powers.

In the Open Door, America said "no" to the First World of the day, to the major powers. Now, at the creative prodding of Ambassador Moynihan, America is saying "no" to the Third World, the once-exploited who now wish to turn the tables. The ambassador has had the foresight to see that the United States cannot submit to the dominance of these other powers, and survive, and American foreign policy is showing the mark of his thought.

After seven months in office, a period of controversy which has won praise at home coupled with a grudging respect abroad, Moynihan has succeeded in establishing the basis for the modern-day use of American diplomatic power. This is a significant accomplishment left as his legacy. In backing this policy thus far, the President and the Secretary of State have enhanced the quality of the Moynihan legacy. In the continuance of the policies enunciated in large part due to the prodding of an innovative Ambassador Moynihan, they shall be supporting what has been a very far-reaching and necessary change in the tenor of modern American diplomacy.

## Letters to the Editor

### More Shiffrin

One must object to several of the statements in Mark Shiffrin's ill-informed article on Paul Robeson. Shiffrin fails to appreciate the motivation behind Robeson's Communism and the profound disillusionment and dismay of many Blacks and Whites concerning America's failure to fulfill its promise of equality.

Shiffrin states incorrectly that Robeson's politics were "obscene." Robeson may have been overly idealistic, but many of us might be accused of that; some of us would argue that Robeson's view of America's racial situation was more realistic than Shiffrin's contention that Robeson "forgot the potential now being shown by black and white America." Is that potential being shown in Rosedale or Boston?

Beside his political ideals, and his exquisite voice and acting ability, many Americans will remember Robeson's fight against racial injustice in this country, a contribution which Shiffrin completely ignores. I share with Shiffrin his concern that he knew nothing about Robeson until he read the New York Times obituary; this demonstrates both how much America has forgotten the horrors of McCarthyism and how appallingly little knowledge most people have concerning Afro-American history and culture. Shiffrin's comments on Robeson prove that all of us have some subjects on which we are (to quote Shiffrin) "ignorant beyond description."

Noralee Frankel

### Still More

Mark Shiffrin's column "Right to Voice His Views", in which Mr.

Shiffrin condemns America for destroying Paul Robeson because of Robeson's leftist stand is an "obscenity." Shiffrin, by using such inane terms as "Phi Beta Kappa fool" or "he was ignorant beyond belief", is doing precisely what he was moralizing against in his column; namely, ostracizing an individual because that individual's political views are out of the mainstream.

Although Paul Robeson's politics may be distasteful to many, there remains a basis for understanding them. According to a *Newsweek* article from the Feb. 2 issue, Robeson's pro-Soviet stand developed after he had visited Nazi Germany in 1934 and "was villified for his color by Hitler's Brown-shirts". He then visited the Soviet Union where he was given a warm welcome. In addition, in the year 1934 many well-known Americans joined the Communist Party, because the U.S. was gripped by an economic depression. These people were simply looking for an answer to the economic situation. Would Shiffrin characterize all these people as ignorant?

I would implore Shiffrin to try to keep to his point and not lecture on the "stupidity of Robeson's Communism". Let it suffice to say that Robeson was destroyed by ignorant people who could not accept any other ideologies but their own!

Allen Rosenfeld

### Academics

Although students, and for that matter faculty, have never been granted direct representation on the Board of Trustees—even in a non-voting capacity—two positions on two Board committees (Student Affairs and Academic Affairs) are

filled annually by the appointment of a student and faculty member to each.

As this year's student representative to the Board of Trustees Committee on Academic Affairs, I feel a certain sense of frustration—perhaps somewhat common to my predecessors—growing out of a desire to take advantage of my appointment to the fullest.

My frustration is largely due to the absence of a student government, which would provide some sort of mandate to be brought to the Board on behalf of the student body. Although various student advisory councils are active within the framework of different schools and departments (i.e. Columbian College), no such group has surfaced on a university-wide level, taking an interest in the academic affairs of G.W.

My task of representing student concerns, therefore, becomes rather difficult, particularly when most students seem unaware that such a position on a Board committee even exists. It is my hope that the apparent lack of interest in academic matters on the part of students at G.W. is due only to a perceived absence of channels for student input. I am most anxious to meet with students interested in any matters of an academic nature. Please feel free to contact me at 338-3170.

Lois Goldberg

Deadlines for columns and letters are Tuesday at 4 p.m. for the Thursday edition and Friday at 4 p.m. for the Monday edition. All materials must be typed, triple-spaced on an 82-space line and signed with the author's name and telephone number. For further information, call 676-7550.



## UNCLASSIFIEDS

Remember: DANKINS are not only for dancing! The University Boutique International now has also DANKINS tops and turtleneck sweaters, and tights for men. 7420 Baltimore Blvd., College Park.

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\$3/hr. on campus. Male students under 23 needed to participate in 2 hour problem solving study at G.W. Center for Family Research, Ross Hall. Call Roberta Haber, Mon thru Thurs, 6-9 pm. 244-1963.

**HOW TO DRIVE & CAMP IN EUROPE** on less than \$7 a day per person (when 4 in a car/tent) write for free info to: Share A Car, Inc., 57 Studiessaede, DK 1554 Copenhagen V, Denmark

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**HELP WANTED:** Downtown economic consulting firm needs several people to work part-time at their convenience, starting immediately, on a special project involving some xeroxing and proof-reading. Workers needed until completion of project—possibly two to three weeks. Job pays \$3.00 per hour; free soft drinks and coffee provided. Call Ms. Palmer, 223-1100.

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Do you have the equipment and spare time to silk screen T-shirts? We will supply the shirts. Quantity runs will start in April and continue through the summer. Call Phil at 337-8888.

**WRONG ATTITUDE:** "The International Community is discriminated in

GWU by hostile environment: The Bias News Coverage—Arbitrariness, Partisan Administration—Injustice, and a general air of manufactured tension—Intolerance"...Damjan Gruen, Editor, *Hatchet*

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Applicants invited for positions as Residents Assistants/Counselors in the Secondary School Honors Program for the Summer Sessions, 1976. Application deadline, February 6, 1976. Application forms and further information available in the office of the Dean of University Students, Rice Hall, 3rd floor.

Valentine's Day is coming! Do you know what to give? How about a full color photograph for only \$3—call 244-5405. Paul. For appointment.

## BULLETIN BOARD

Daily Bread Coffee house open every Saturday night, 8:00 pm - 11:30 pm. All are welcome! (Sponsored by the Wesley Foundation and G.W. Christian Coalition) address: 2026 Eye St. N.W. (on campus)

Asian Benevolent Corps is a non-profit organization engaged in artistic, cultural, educational, charitable and social activities. It's open to both Asians and non-Asians. Volunteer opportunities abound. Interested? Call Laurie at 331-0129.

Folkdancing Tuesday night. No experience necessary. Center Ballroom, beginners & intermediate. 8-11 p.m. Free to G.W. Students, \$1.00 others.

An undergraduate Career Conference for Sociology Majors Sponsored by the D.C. Sociological Society will be held on February 26, 1976 at the Dunbarton Campus of Howard University from 1:00 to 4:00 PM. For more information, and directions to the Conference, stop by the Sociology Department, Bldg. D, 2129 G Street, NW, where a map is posted on the bulletin board, or call Dave Abrams, 521-0798 (evenings).

Come read your prose/poetry Fridays, Marvin Center Rm. 402, 3-5 pm sponsored by Rock Creek.

Free Association: Dance/Theatre company presents an hour of improvisation on Sat. Feb. 7 at 8:30 p.m. at Grace Church, 1041 Wisconsin Avenue. FREE.

Uplift house needs volunteers to help tutor. You can pick up an application in room 419, Marvin Center or from Uplift House, on 1536 15th Street, N.W.

Thursday 2/5 from 3-5 pm—Resources for Jobs in Washington, DC. Orientation to the D.C. area job market. Breaking down the federal bureaucracy, unions, international organizations. Marvin Center 402.

The following recruiters will be on campus. Sign up in advance at Career Services: Feb. 9, Mon.—Johnson Wax-Sophomore and Junior Mechanical Engineering students.; Summer Engineering Intern Program. U.S. Citizenship required.; TRW Systems—Engineering, Math, Physics or Computer Science. Feb. 10, Tues.—U.S. General Accounting Office; Feb. 11, Wed.—First National Bank of Maryland.; Feb. 12, Thurs.—Financial Management Resources—Business or Liberal Arts.

Save the Stooges! The Three Stooges were recently banished to a one day a week, early morning timeslot. You can help bring them back five days a week by signing a petition. Petitions are located in Marvin Center (ground floor and room 419), Thurston Hall and C-building. Preserve a bit of Americana by signing a petition. Thank you.

Ski—anyone interested in going skiing to Killington with the GW Ski Club during our March break please call Jeff Seder at 296-3807 or Mrs. Collier at 676-6282.

Free Association, Dance Improvisation Co. will perform Saturday evening Feb. 7, 8:30; Grace Church, Georgetown (1041 Wisconsin Ave.) Free.

Ecology Action asks that students put newspapers in the recycling racks. Thanks to those that did, over 4,000 trees were saved last year. If you're interested in helping, give Domenica a call at 676-7875.

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# Madison Falls to Colonials Harper Sparks 80-70 Win

by Mark Potts  
Hatchet Staff Writer

The Colonials, playing a Madison team crippled by the absence of star forward Sherman Dillard, thoroughly outclassed the Dukes and won, 80-70 last night, in a game that was nowhere near as close as its score.

The Buff, coming off its Saturday night massacre by Cincinnati, started out as if they were going to try to do a complete smear job on the Dukes, scoring the first six points and jumping out to a 10-4 lead.

Madison battled back, though, beating GW's 1-3-1 defense and closing to within a point, 16-15, with 11:46 left in the first half.

That was as close as the Dukes got for the rest of the night as GW came out of a timeout fired up and ran their lead back up to 26-18. The Dukes, ranked fifth in the nation in the AP Division II poll, were obviously hurting without Dillard, who missed the game with knee problems, and his 24.6 average. Madison played sloppily throughout the first half, hitting only 32.3 per cent from the floor.

With Haviland Harper and Jim Smith firing 11 and eight points in the half, respectively, the Buff took a 41-29 lead into the locker room.

The Colonials put the game on ice in the first seven minutes of the second half, running their lead to 51-36 as Madison's defense evaporated. GW spent the next 10 minutes padding its lead, at one point getting as far as 22 points ahead.

With subs in the game for both teams, Madison made a run for respectability, outscoring the Buff 14-2 over the last four minutes of the game. It wasn't really much of a threat since GW already had it in



Colonial center Kevin Hall had 16 rebounds, a season high for the team, in addition to 10 blocked shots and seven points in the game against Madison. (photo by Henry Greenfeld)

the bag, and Pat Tallent, who had something of an off night, was on the bench for the final five minutes. Tallent got only four points the first half, winding up with 16 in the game.

Other Colonials had better performances. Kevin Hall had the team's season high rebounding mark with 16, blocking ten shots in one of his best-ever defensive outings. Haviland Harper hit for 17 points as the Colonial high man,

and Jim Smith made 10 points for the Buff, who ran their record to 12-5.

Les Anderson and John Holloran, who have been hot of late, cooled a little in the game, getting six and eight points, respectively, and Mike Miller, who wound up playing ten minutes of the game, came up with eight points.

Madison, whose record fell to 13-5, had the game's scoring leader, Pat Dosh, with 18 tallies.

# Sports

## Wrestlers Lose Two In Metro Tournament

George Mason and American Universities proved too much for the GW wrestling squad Tuesday as they shut out the Buff 33-0 and 41-0, respectively.

It was the same old story for coach Chuck Friday as he still found some light at the end of a pretty bleak tunnel.

"This might sound crazy, but I still saw improvement after both of the matches," said Friday. "We wrestled George Mason in a preliminary match the night before the tourney and most of our guys were getting pinned. But during the tourney, the same guys who got pinned on our squad gave their opponents tough matches."

Two wrestlers cited by Friday as showing good efforts were Steve Dambeck (142 lbs.) and John Stirrup (190 lbs. and heavyweight).

"Both of these guys showed great spirit even though they lost two close decisions," said Friday. "They were on their backs at one time or another, but fought back for close matches."

Friday also said senior John Lampe (158 lbs.) dislocated his elbow and will be lost to the team indefinitely. His replacement, junior Paul Taxiera, showed good form according to Friday.

The only bright mark of the whole tourney for GW occurred when the Howard Bison forfeited their final match to the Buff. "I guess they were tired after their first two matches," explained Friday. "You might consider it our first victory of the season," he added.

GW will face Temple and Virginia Commonwealth Universities in a triangular meet at Temple this Saturday.

—Larry Shapiro

## Pool Opening Delayed

The last *Hatchet* pool report indicated that the facility would be ready for use this week. However, the opening has been delayed once again because of continuing leakage.

According to Robert K. Faris, athletic director, the pool is now leaking in the area where water flows into it, and cement on parts of

the pool floor has not adhered and must be replastered. The pool is currently being drained and further repairs will begin as soon as possible, he said.

Faris said the pool architects had not given him a definite answer on when the facility would be ready for use, but predicted that it should open within 10 days to two weeks.



Kevan Berkovitz with plaster of paris and rubber head of George Washington. "I'm having a good time. I do it for spirit" (photo by Roni Sussman)

## Who Wears The Head?

by Donna Olshan  
Sports Editor

Who is that guy?

Spectators frequently ask this question while watching the Colonials' mascot prance along the sidelines during home basketball games.

"Everybody calls me George. I don't think anyone knows my name," said Kevan Berkovitz.

Berkovitz, a 19-year-old sophomore from Philadelphia, said he does it because he's a "sports nut." He proposed the idea of a mascot to Athletic Director Robert Faris last year. Faris was very receptive to the idea, (GW had a mascot several years ago) but he wanted to wait until the Smith Center opened.

On the eve of the Center opening and the Colonials' first game against Athletics in Action, Faris surprised Berkovitz with the head.

Berkovitz said he doesn't know how much the enormous head, which is made of plaster of paris and rubber, weighs, but it takes two hands to pick it up. Towels are put on his shoulders for protection and balance. He said it has occurred to him that he could capsize because of the large size and weight of the head. However, he claims he's getting better at balancing and can endure wearing it for two hours.

Berkovitz, who doesn't get paid,

enjoys being the mascot. He plans to do it again next year and hopes he will get a female partner—a Martha Washington.

Berkovitz said he was told by an alumnus that many years ago the identity of the person who played the George Washington mascot was an absolute secret. However, he said in his case more and more people are finding out who he is.

"I'm really not too concerned with what I look like. It's the image of what I'm doing, not what I look like," he said. "I'm having a good time. I do it for spirit, people laugh, so they've got something to laugh at the basketball game. I don't care."

"I'm a ham," he said. "I've had friends from home come down and see me do my thing. My parents came down for the Maryland game to watch me."

A lot of people come up to him at the games. "One little girl at the last game came up to me and asked how Mt. Vernon was. I said I hadn't been there in a while," he said.

At the beginning of the basketball season, swimming coach Ed Lasso kidded Berkovitz and Faris that "George needed a little meat on him." So Berkovitz began to lift weights, but mostly for himself rather than his George image.

A prankster, Berkovitz during halftime at the Maryland game



George

turned the chairs on the Terps' bench around so they faced the stands. When coach Lefty Driesell returned to the gym floor he angrily raised his arm, snapped his fingers and pointed to the chairs. His assistants came running in a flurry to put the bench back in order.

## Sports Shorts

GW women's basketball team will meet D.C. Teachers College at the Smith Center tonight, 7:30 p.m.

\*\*\*

All those interested in the GW riding club, call Mrs. Collier 676-6282 or Fritz Vollkommer 676-7896. Riding is on Fridays and six lessons are \$30.

\*\*\*

The women's gymnastics team is now practicing on Saturdays, 10-12 a.m. in the auxillary gym. Regular practice is Tues.-Thurs. 6-8 p.m.

\*\*\*

The GW ski club is sponsoring a trip to Killington, Vt. March 13-20. The price of the trip is \$147, which includes two meals per day, lift tickets, lodging and transportation. For information call Jeff Seder, 296-3807 or Mrs. Collier, 676-6282.

\*\*\*

Tickets for the Volvo Tennis Classic in the Smith Center March 15-21 can be obtained by calling 785-5626. Discount tickets for the tourney will be available only for students and faculty with GW identification beginning Feb. 3. All seats are reserved.